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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/820,685	04/08/2004	Aurobinda Pradhan	13906-194001/2004P00155	8526
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FISH & RICHARDSON, P.C.			EXAMINER	
PO BOX 1022			SAIN, GAUTAM	
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55440-1022			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

2176

DATE MAILED: 04/17/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/820,685	<b>Applicant(s)</b> PRADHAN, AUROBINDA	
	<b>Examiner</b> Gautam Sain	<b>Art Unit</b> 2176	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 May 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 03 May 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>4/04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

**DETAILED ACTION**

- 1) This is a Nonfinal rejection in response to application filed on 4/8/04
- 2) Claims 1-19 are pending and rejected below.
- 3) Effective filing date 4/8/04.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

- 4) The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

- 4-1) Claims 1, 2, 4-17 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rivette et al (US 6389434, issued May 14, 2002).**

**Regarding claims 1, 12 and 16,** Rivette teaches displaying a view of a selectable electronic document on a graphical user interface. For example, Rivette discloses a method for creating subnotes linked to portions of data objects, where user viewing a note can view sub-notes attached to the note in the source (col 4, lines 3-6) on a GUI on the screen (col 21, lines 55-58).

Rivette teaches receiving, ... new electronic document. For example, creating a sub-note in a note based on the requests from the user viewing the document, to display selected portion linked to the subnote attached to the note (col 4, lines 1-7).

Rivette teaches creating the new ... linked to each other. For example, creating a sub-notes associated and linked to the note while note is being viewed by the user based on the user's request (col 2, lines 1-7; col 5, lines 40-55).

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Rivette does not expressly teach 'predetermined user input', but does suggest it based on it's disclosure. For example, Rivette discloses operations of the invention with menu options for creating a note/sub-note (col 5, lines 25-30).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to interpret Rivette's disclosure to include a menu options for creating notes/sub-notes as to suggest a predetermined user input, providing the benefit of organizing information such that the data objects that relate to a particular topic are associated with other data objects that are related to the same topic (Rivette, col 1, lines 49-53).

**Claims 2 and 17**, Rivette teaches providing ... to be created. For example, Operations of the invention that provide in a Note menu, options to create a Note/Sub-note (col 5, lines 28-30) where the user makes a selection from the note menu to create a note/sub-note.

**Claims 4, 11 and 19**, Rivette teaches predetermined ... electronic document. For example, the user making a request to create a sub-note for a note by selecting command 5.2 from the Note Menu for Operation of the Invention (col 4, lines 2-5; col 5, lines 25-30).

**Claims 5 and 13**, Rivette teaches storing an identifier ... to each other. For example, storing the notes/subnotes in the notes database with note identifier field as Note A (col 19, lines 20-23; col 25, lines 13-15).

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**Claims 6 and 14**, Rivette teaches using the identifier ... electronic document. For example, subnotes linked to source materials where line 4230 is bi-directional from source to the note and back to the source (col 8, lines 24-30; Fig 31A and 31B).

**Claim 7 and 15**, Rivette teaches using the identifier ... new electronic document. For example, subnotes linked to source materials where line 4230 is bi-directional from source to the note and back to the source (col 8, lines 24-30), where in Fig 31B are linked to source document in 31A on the same user interface (col 8, lines 24-30; Fig 31A and Fig 31B).

**Regarding Claim 8**, Rivette teaches making a determination ... displayed; and generating ... determination. For example, displaying the sub-note based on the selected portion of the note on the display window screen (col 4, lines 1-10).

**Regarding claim 9**, Rivette teaches a first identifier ... to each other. For example, bi-directional links allow users to navigate from objects to sub-notes via links (col 11, lines 25-30).

**Regarding claim 10**, Rivette teaches selected electronic document ... link them to each other. For example, since all of the notes and sub-notes can be embedded, from source to Note A to Note B to Note C, Note B is a third note that is associated to the source document via a linked list connecting source to note A and then Note A to Note B (col 25, lines 13-24).

**4-2) Claims 3 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rivette et al (US 6389434, issued May 14, 2002), further in view of Non-Patent**

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**Literature “An opening linkage service supporting the authoring of web documents” by Renato Bulcao Neto (2002; ACM Press)(hereinafter “Neto”).**

Regarding claims 3 and 18, Rivette does not expressly teach, but Neto teaches predetermined user input ... not linked to the selected electronic document. For example, Neto discloses web notes that are independent of any document created by operations, as shown in the window in Fig 4 (page 70, section 4.1), where the user can makes a selection from the menu (which presumably means that it is a predetermined option).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Rivette to include web notes that are independent of any documents as taught by Neto, providing the benefit of allowing web authors to separate the task of generation of the document content from the task of supporting or elaborating appropriate linkage structures by using an open linking service (page 66, second column bottom paragraph to page 67, top paragraph).

### ***Conclusion***


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gautam Sain whose telephone number is 571-272-4096. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-5 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather Herndon can be reached on 571-272-4136. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

GS 4/10/06  
GS

  
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